Criteria for postal facilities

1658. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the criteria for setting up post offices in both urban and rural areas;

(b) the number of villages in the country where post offices are required to be set up under the existing norms, State-wise;

(c) by when, Government propose to set up post offices in these villages; and

(d) whether Government would consider employing the EDs of the Postal Department in the proposed new Post Offices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The details of the criteria for setting up post offices in both urban and rural areas is given in the enclosed Statement-I.

(b) and (c) The Cricle-wise estimation of Post Offices likely to fulfil all the existing three norms for opening Branch Post Office in the next three years is given in the enclosed Statement-ll. This is an ongoing process subject to availability of resources.

(d) New Branch Post Office are being opened in the Tenth Plan only by redeployment of existing ED manpower.

Statement-I

NORMS FOR OPENING POST OFFICES:

1. Norms for opening Extra Departmental Branch Post Offices:

1.1 Population:

(a) in Normal Areas:

3000 population in a group of villages (including the PPO village)

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

500 population in an individual village or 1000 population in a group of villages.

1.2 Distance:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum distance from the nearest existing post office will be 3 Kms.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The distance limit will be the same as above except that in Hilly Areas, the minimum distance limit can be relaxed by the Directorate in cases where such relaxation is warranted by special circumstances which should be clearly explained while submitted a proposal.

1.3 Anticipated Income:

(a) In Normal Areas:

The minimum anticipated revenue will be $33V_3$% of the cost.

(b) In Hilly, Tribal, Desert and Inaccessible Areas:

The minimum anticipated income will be 15% of the cost. 2. Criteria for upgrading/opening Departmental Sub Post Offices:

(c) In Rural Areas:

The minimum work load of the Extra Departmental Branch Post Office, proposed to be upgraded, should be five hours per day.

The permissible limit of annual loss is Rs. 2400/- in Normal Rural Areas and Rs. 4800/- in Tribal and Hilly areas.

(d) In Urban Areas:

In Urban areas, the post office should initially be self-supporting, and, at the time of the first annual review, it should show a 5% profit to be eligible for further retention.

The minimum distance between two post offices should be 1.5 Kms. in cities with a population of 20 lakhs and above, and 2 Kms. in other Urban Areas. No two delivery offices, however, should be closer than 5 Kms. for each other.

Heads of Circles have powers to relax the distance condition in 10% of the cases.

A Delivery Post Office in Urban Area should have a minimum of 7 Postmen's beats.

Statement-II

State-wise estimation of post offices likely to fulfil all the existing three norms for opening of Post Office in next three years

Sl. No.	Circles	Departmental Sub Office (DSOs)	Extra Departmental Branch Offices (EDBOs)
1	Andhra Pradesh	6	Nil
2	Assam	25	50
3	Bihar	15	41
4	Chhattisgarh	Nil	Nil
5	Delhi	5	Nil
6	Gujarat	Nil	Nil
7	Haryana	3	2
8	Himachal Pradesh	Nil	Nil
9	J&K	Nil	28
10	Jharkhand	3	15
11	Karnataka	2	12
12	Kerala	6	8
13	M.P.	Nil	Nil
14	Maharashtra	15	15
15	North East	Nil	Nil
16	Orissa	6	20
17	Punjab	Nil	Nil
18	Rajasthan	Nil	28
19	Tamil Nadu	11	28
20	U.P.	8	9
21	Uttaranchal	Nil	21
22	W.Bengal	Nil	8
	TOTAL:	105	285

Rental concession to senior citizens

1659. SHRI SANJAY RAJARAM RAUT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that MTNL is providing special concession to the senior citizen subscribers in the monthly rental;